

COUNTY OF SUFFOLK



STEVEN BELLONE
SUFFOLK COUNTY EXECUTIVE

SUFFOLK COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION SUMMARY OF REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING

David L. Calone
Chairman

Sarah Lansdale, AICP
Director of Planning

Date: August 7, 2013
Time: 2:00 p.m.
Location: Rose Caracappa Legislative Auditorium
North County Complex
Hauppauge, New York 11788

Members Present (11)

Jennifer Casey – Huntington (arrived at 2:15)
Matthew Chartrand - Islip
Carl Gabrielsen – Town of Riverhead (arrived at 2:20)
J. Edward Shillingburg – Shelter Island
John Finn - Smithtown
Barbara Roberts - Southampton
Adrienne Esposito – Villages Over 5,000
Michael Kaufman – Villages Under 5,000
Glynis Margaret Berry – At Large
David Calone – At Large
Kevin Gershowitz – At Large (arrived at 2:35)

Staff Present (5)

Robert Braun – Assistant County Attorney (Counsel to the Commission)
Andrew Freleng – Chief Planner
Theodore Klein – Senior Planner
John Corral – Planner
Colleen Badolato – Secretarial Assistant

Call to Order

- The meeting of August 7, 2013 was called to order by David Calone, Chairman, at 2:10 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance

Adoption of Minutes

- The adoption of the June 2013 Meeting Minutes. Motion to adopt as amended made by Commission member Kaufman, seconded by Commission member Whelan. Vote Approved: 8 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstentions.
- The adoption of the July 2013 Meeting Minutes. Motion to adopt made by Commission member Kaufman, seconded by Commission member Whelan. Vote Approved: 8 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstentions.

Public Portion – No one from the public asked to address to the Commission.

Chairman's Report – Chairman Calone updated the Commission as follows:

- Dr. Dick Koubek and Kathy Ligouri, together head-up the Suffolk County Legislature's Welfare to Work Commission. They will be presenting important information to know as the Planning Commission gets into the development of the Comprehensive Plan.
- The Commission can expect to be busy this fall with a number of our priorities including Professional Certification, the Public Safety model code, the Economic Development conference, the Comprehensive Plan, the Geothermal model code, Energy and Natural Resource, and Resiliency which includes Post Sandy resiliency work, and Sewer Financing.
- On Agriculture; the Commission is working to support Suffolk's agricultural economy and sustain it into the future. Upon his arrival, Carl Gabrielsen will update the Commission on his work regarding the "farm to institutions" initiative which can lead to legislation to support it where the goal is to make it easier for local farmers to sell their produce to institutions such as schools, jails, nursing homes, etc.
- On the East End wastewater effort, there is a joint application to the Long Island Regional Economic Development Council submitted by the County, Town of Southampton and other environmental protection entities that will focus on the use of de-centralized sewage treatment facilities which Commission member Glynis Berry provided more details on;
 - Glynis Berry informed the Commission that it is basically a 'coalition application' for a grant to cover planning tasks, pilot designs, and build a test center wastewater plan that would enable further studies of the use of de-centralized wastewater treatment on the east end of Suffolk County.
- The Annual Planning Federation Conference is in October and Mike Kaufman who is coordinating the classes and speakers for the conference updated the Commission;
 - Commission member Mike Kaufman stated that the conference will be held on October 17th at the Brookhaven National Lab. Also that the courses are pretty well set, and that the Department of State will be holding 3 of them. Planning credits are available for those who may need them. The Rauch Foundation is going to be giving a presentation, as will Commission member Glynis Berry, the Suffolk County IDA, and the Brookhaven National Lab. The keynote speaker will be Kevin Law of the Long Island Association. Commission members are encouraged to sign up to participate in the panels.

Chairman's Report (Continued)

- Mentioned last month, the consultant firm AKRF was chosen to complete the County's Comprehensive Plan and Stephen Holley of AKRF will update the Commission at an upcoming meeting. The Chair indicated that Commission members Kaufman and Berry have volunteered to be involved with the Comp Plan committee, and if any other members would like to be involved they should let him know.
- The next scheduled Commission meeting will be in Sag Harbor at the Village Hall. It's on September 4th and will begin at 10:30 a.m.. For those interested there will be a walking tour of the Village at 9:30 a.m.. Also there will be lunch served for Commission members and invited guests at Barbara Roberts' house after the meeting.
- Quick update on Plum Island; The Federal government, shortly after the Commission put out a letter making a special request for a full environmental report, did publish some environmental information and 1st Vice Chair Esposito will look that over for us and provide the Commission with more details on what the report says.
- Acknowledging that Carl Gabrielsen had just arrived, the Chairman asked him to update the Commission with information regarding a potential program that could enable local farmers to provide produce directly to local institutions.
 - Commission member Gabrielsen stated that under current conditions it isn't possible for local farmers to provide a steady stream of produce that the institutions need. Growing on Long Island is still a very seasonal operation, and what we would like to see is more farmers switch over to using greenhouses to be able to grow year-round. Then we can start talking about providing to the local institutions. Tentative meetings are set up with the Cornell Cooperative and County Legislator Krupski to discuss the issue. A conversation with an executive of one of the largest regional food wholesalers reiterated the need for a continuous stream of produce for a "farm to institution" program to really be economically feasible for them. But did go onto say that there is definitely a demand on Long Island for locally grown food.

Director's Report – Planning Director Sarah Lansdale did not attend the meeting and Andrew Freleng informed the Commission on her behalf about recent activities within the Division including the following items:

- The County's Transfer of Development Rights report is being finished up.
- The Sagtikos Redevelopment Study Area report is also in the process of being completed.
- The County Comp Plan moving forward as well.

Guest Speakers

- **Richard Koubek, Ph.D.**, Chair of the Suffolk County Legislature Welfare to Work Commission, presented an outline of the report entitled "Struggling in Suburbia: Meeting the Challenges of Poverty in Suffolk County". He was accompanied by **Kathy Liguori**, Vice Chair of the Suffolk County Legislature Welfare to Work Commission, who also presented information to the Commission. Both answered questions and addressed comments of the Commission.

Guest Speakers (Continued)

- **Kyle Collins**, Town of Southampton Planning and Development Administrator; and **Janice Scherer**, Town of Southampton Project Manager, presented an outline of the "Southampton 400+" the Sustainability Element Update to the Town of Southampton Comprehensive Plan; and also answered questions of the Commission.

Section A14-14 thru A14-25 of the Suffolk County Administrative Code

- **Adoption of Adopted Resolution 2013-315 Update to the Town of Southampton Comprehensive Plan to Include A Sustainability Element (Southampton 400+)**; referred by the Town of Southampton, received on July 12, 2013 – the Commission's jurisdiction for review is that the application is the proposed adoption or amendment of a municipal zoning ordinance or Comprehensive Plan. The Town proposes to amend, on its own motion, the Town of Southampton 1999 Comprehensive Plan to include the Sustainability Element known as "Southampton 400+". Its stated goal is to "Maintain the unique characteristics that define the Town, specifically its scenic vistas, maritime heritage, agricultural heritage and culture, vibrant hamlet centers and unsurpassed beaches..."

The staff report recommended approval of proposed amendment to the Town's Comprehensive Plan. The Commission resolved to agree and approved the proposed amendment.

The motion to approve the application was made by 1st Vice Chair Esposito and seconded by Commission member Casey, vote Approved; 11 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstentions.

Discussion

- Chairman Calone briefly reminded the Commission that the next meeting is in Sag Harbor. And he also mentioned that the County Executive has nominated a new Commission member to fill the Town of Babylon vacancy. His name is Ray Accettella, and his appointment will be going before the Legislature for their vote within the next month or so.

Meeting Adjourned (3:45 p.m.)

- The motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Commission member Kaufman and seconded by Commission member Whelan, vote Approved; 11 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstention.